

REMARKS

Applicants respectfully request reconsideration of the present application in view of the foregoing amendments and in view of the reasons that follow.

Claim Amendments

Claims 2-8, 30-31, 35-38, 41-42, and 44 previously were canceled. Claims 1, 9, 11, 17, 28-29, and 33 currently are cancelled.

Claims 10, 12, 14-16, 18, 20-21, 23-24, 26, 32, 39-40, 43, 45, and 49 currently are amended. No new matter has been added by these amendments. Cancellation of the claims and the amendments is not intended to be a dedication of the canceled or amended subject matter to the public. Applicants reserve the right to file one or more continuation application(s) to the canceled subject matter.

Support for the amendments can be found throughout the application as filed. In particular, the support for the amendments can be found as follows. Claim 10 has been amended to include all the limitations of claim 1 as applicable to claim 10. Claim 10 has also been amended to remove typographical errors. Claims 12, 14-16, 32, 39-40, 43, and 49 have been amended to correct the dependency to claim 10. Claim 12 and 16 have also been amended to remove the phrase “where m , R^c and R^d are as defined in Claim 1” or “where R^8 is as defined in Claim 1” respectively, for clarity purposes. Claim 20 has been amended to remove the phrase “where m , R^a , R^c and R^d are as defined in Claim 1” for clarity purposes. Claim 23 has been amended to remove the phrase “where m , R^a , R^b and R^c are as defined in Claim 1” for clarity purposes. Claim 26 has been amended to remove the phrase “where m , R^a , R^b and R^c are as defined in Claim 1” for clarity purposes. Claim 15 has also been amended to remove a typographical error. Claim 32 has further been amended to incorporate the limitations of now canceled claim 33. Claims 39 and 49 have also been amended to remove the compounds which are not under the scope of claim 10. Claims 18, 21, and 24 have been amended to correct the

dependency of the claim to claim 16 only. Claim 45 has been amended to clarify that the Markush group of diseases is “an autoimmune disease involving a systemic autoimmune disorder.” Support for this amendment can be found on page 14, lines 5-9 of the application as filed. Entry of these amendments is respectfully requested.

After amending the claims as set forth above, claims 10, 12-16, 18-27, 32, 34, 39-40, 43, and 45-49 are now pending in this application and are under consideration.

This amendment adds, changes and/or deletes claims in this application. A detailed listing of all claims that are, or were, in the application, irrespective of whether the claim(s) remain under examination in the application, is presented, with an appropriate defined status identifier.

Comments

Applicants thank the Office for acknowledging the amendment filed on March 8, 2007 and the Information Disclosure Statement filed on June 6, 2007.

Applicants note that the amendments to the specification at pages 508 and 596 could not be entered because the indicated table rows and compounds do not appear at the pages identified. The Office states that the compound 7.4.176 appears on page 508 and compounds 7.4.416 and 7.4.417 appear on page 582.

Applicants thank the Office for pointing out the typographical error. Applicants have amended the specification herein where the compound 7.4.176 actually appears on page 506 and compounds 7.4.416 and 7.4.417 appear on page 582. Entry of this amendment is respectfully requested.

Claim Objection

The Office states that the claims 10-13, 15, 21-29, 33, 34, 39, and 49 are objected to as depending from a rejected base claim but are otherwise in condition for allowance.

Applicants thank the Office for allowing the above stated claims. In order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have canceled claim 1 and have made the claim 10 as independent claim incorporating the limitation of claim 1 as appropriate to claim 10. All the dependent claims have either been canceled or amended to make them dependent on the independent claim 10. Dependent claims 11, 28-29, and 33 have been canceled in light of the amendment made to claim 10. Dependent claims 12, 14-16, 20, 23, 26, 32, 39-40, 43, and 49 have been amended to correct the dependency of the claims to claim 10. Claims 18, 21, and 24 have also been amended to correct the dependency of the claim to claim 16 only, in light of the cancellation of claim 17. Allowance of the claims is respectfully requested.

Claim rejection under 35 U.S.C. §102

The Office has rejected claims 1, 9, 14, 16-20, 32, 40, 43, 45 and 47 under 35 U.S.C. §102(a) as being anticipated by Pease et al.(WO 01/64656) for the reasons of record as set forth in the previous office action.

In order to expedite prosecution, Applicants have cancelled claims 1, 9, and 17. Applicants have further amended claims 14, 16, 18, 20, 32, 40, 43, and 47 to correct the claim dependencies to claim 10 which is in a condition for allowance. In light of the claim amendments, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Claim rejection under 35 U.S.C. §103

The Office has rejected claims 1, 9, 14, 16-20, 32, 40, 43, and 45-48 under 35 U.S.C. §103(a) as being unpatentable over Pease et al.(WO 01/64656) for the reasons of record as set forth in the previous office action.

For the same reasons as stated above, withdrawal of this rejection is respectfully requested.

Applicants believe that the present application is now in condition for allowance.
Favorable reconsideration of the application as amended is respectfully requested.

CONCLUSION

The Examiner is invited to contact the undersigned by telephone if it is felt that a telephone interview would advance the prosecution of the present application.

The Commissioner is hereby authorized to charge any additional fees which may be required regarding this application under 37 C.F.R. §§ 1.16-1.17, or credit any overpayment, to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. Should no proper payment be enclosed herewith, as by a check or credit card payment form being in the wrong amount, unsigned, post-dated, otherwise improper or informal or even entirely missing, the Commissioner is authorized to charge the unpaid amount to Deposit Account No. 19-0741. If any extensions of time are needed for timely acceptance of papers submitted herewith, Applicant hereby petitions for such extension under 37 C.F.R. §1.136 and authorizes payment of any such extensions fees to Deposit Account No. 19-0741.

Respectfully submitted,

Date

09/17/07

By



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